

## AMENDMENTS

### In the Claims

Please cancel claims ~~1~~, 2, and 4 - 7. Please add new claims 12 - 14.

Sub B1  
12. (NEW) A thermoformable nonwoven fabric composed of filaments of a biodegradable polymer, wherein

the biodegradable polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly-D-lactic acid, poly-L-lactic acid, copolymers of D-lactic acid and L-lactic acid in which the copolymerization molar ratio of either one of D-lactic acid and L-lactic acid is 90% or more and that of the other is 10% or less, and blends of any of these polymers,

the filaments have a polymer supercool index of 0.3 to 0.6,

the filaments have a birefringence of  $3 \times 10^{-3}$  to  $15 \times 10^{-3}$ , and

A'  
the filaments have a polymer crystalline size of 15 to 20 Å as measured axially thereof.

B  
13. <sup>NEW</sup> (AMENDED) A nonwoven fabric as set forth in claim 1, which has a boiling water shrinkage percentage of 10 to 40%

Sub B2  
14. <sup>NEW</sup> (AMENDED) A nonwoven fabric as set forth in claim 1, wherein the polymer contains a nucleating agent.